

watershedfocus

Summer 2000
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

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Governor Whitman Announces Clean Water Initiative

Governor Christie Whitman announced, on June 5, 2000, that she has taken unprecedented action to protect and restore the quality and quantity of water in New Jersey. At the Governor's direction, the state Department of Environmental Protection has proposed rules to require that environmental effects on our water supply are taken into consideration whenever new development is planned.

"It is important that we, as a state, grow wisely and in a way that preserves our drinking water, and protects the health of our streams and rivers," said Governor Whitman. "For New Jerseyans, it means that we'll have more clean water to drink, more spots to fish, more rivers to canoe and more lakes in which to swim."

The Water Quality and Watershed Management rules announced in June offer landmark protection for rivers, strategies for restoring waterways harmed by runoff from developed areas, and incentives to encourage growth in areas that already have sewers, roads and other infrastructure. Those wastewater management plans that are proposed in areas where growth is

(Initiative continued on page 2)



The Water Quality and Watershed Management rules offer landmark protection for rivers.


watershed *focus*

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Initiative

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encouraged will be exempt from many of the additional analyses required by this rule. For example, applications for plans proposed within designated sewer service areas will not be required to include environmental analyses.

Under the proposed rules, if development is planned outside an existing or approved sewer service area, comprehensive environmental assessments will be required that gauge the potential impact on water quality and supply. Developments of six or more homes using septic systems would also be required to undergo extensive environmental analysis. Appropriate measures will be required to meet water quality standards and alleviate any water supply concerns before plans can be approved. Commercial development on septic systems discharging more than 2,000 gallons per day is also subject to the environmental assessments.

The proposed rules build on Executive Order 109 signed by Governor Whitman in January that required the comprehensive environmental assessments whenever local development would result in building or expanding major wastewater systems.

"This clean water initiative will promote smart growth for the remaining land facing development pressures, as we work toward saving an additional one million acres of open space," said the Governor. "These rules do not ban development. They simply redirect growth to the areas that are best suited for development."

Governor Whitman noted that there are an estimated 300,000 to 400,000 acres of available land within existing or approved sewer service areas that could accommodate new development. Between 1986 and 1995, new development averaged 18,500 acres per year. At that rate, development could continue in existing or approved sewer service areas for approximately 20 years before there would be a need to build in outlying areas.

(More on Initiative continued on page 3)



Saving stream corridors enhances water quality and leaving land undeveloped helps the replenishment of ground water.

More on Initiative

(continued from page 2)

The Governor also said that the new rules will require restoration plans for waterways that do not currently meet state and federal clean water standards through reductions in water pollution from sources such as sewage plants, animal waste, fertilizers and motor oils that run into streets and into the water supply.

The rules require that DEP, together with local watershed groups, develop plans for the management of wastewater, watersheds and overall water quality in New Jersey. A watershed is the area of land that drains into a body of water such as a river, lake, stream or bay. An individual watershed can encompass many towns and counties. New Jersey is divided into 20 watershed management areas.

The timeframes in which the DEP must complete various aspects of the application and approval process are also included in the rule.

"Development often creates building and road surfaces that do not allow rain to soak into the ground. This reduces ground water levels, increases flooding and contributes to water pollution," said Governor Whitman. "Growth in areas with existing or approved sewer or septic systems will preserve open space and help redirect development into our cities."

Whitman noted that the state has already spent \$5 billion to improve water quality by upgrading sewage plants. "However, as development in non-sewered watersheds occurs, water quality worsens due to increased sewage and runoff wastes in those areas. These rules serve to end that trend and looks at ways to maintain clean water."

Each day, New Jersey's seven million residents rely on surface and ground water resources to supply 1.5 billion gallons of water for domestic, industrial and agricultural use. Ground water provides nearly 50 percent of the state's drinking water supply, while the remainder is taken from reservoirs, rivers and canals.

This watershed protection initiative ties in with the Governor's plan to save an additional million acres of open space and farmland in the next 10 years includes new land for state forests, parks and wildlife management areas. Preserving open space helps protect the state's water resources in many ways. Saving stream corridors enhances water quality and leaving land undeveloped helps the replenishment of ground water.

"As we continue to make progress in saving more open space, we also want to promote smart growth for remaining land facing development pressures," said the Governor. "We can achieve this by integrating watershed planning with local land use decisions and the State Plan that will result in development with the least impact on the environment."

The proposed rules, rule summary and fact sheets are available on our website at www.state.nj.us/dep/watershedmgt. The proposed rules are also in the July 3, 2000 issue of the **New Jersey Register**.

EXPLORE YOUR WATERSHED With New CD



Do you want to find out more about your watershed? Do you want to know what other towns are in your watershed? What are the land uses? What permitted facilities are upstream? To find the answers to these questions, you need the new Watershed View CD available from the NJDEP.

The new Watershed View CD contains watershed characterization information that includes Geographic Information System (GIS) software and data. This information can be used to explore your watershed and create maps for your specific watershed purposes.

Understanding water resource issues in New Jersey requires a different frame of reference than most of us are used to in our everyday experience. Instead of thinking of the layout of New Jersey in terms of counties and municipalities, roads and towns, you need to think of the state as streams and watersheds. Conveying these concepts to the public is one of the biggest challenges of the DEP's Division of Watershed Management.

Using Arc Explorer, the free GIS software distributed by ESRI, the Division of Watershed Management hopes to provide our watershed partners with means to do in depth queries of available watershed geographic information. The Watershed View CD contains the GIS software and data which has been specifically prepared to allow you to answer questions about your watershed. The CD has been organized by New Jersey's 20 watershed management areas and includes geographic data sets such as hydrography, land use, political boundaries, state planning areas, watershed boundaries and pollution discharge sites.

The Watershed View CD is available through the NJDEP's Public Access Center at 609-777-DEP3 or by e-mail at vmoores@dep.state.nj.us or tmorriso@dep.state.nj.us. Look for updates to the data and software on the DEP GIS web page located at www.state.nj.us/gis.



Awards Program to Recognize Achievements in Watershed Protection

NJDEP's Division of Watershed Management is pleased to announce its new Awards Program to express appreciation and recognition to segments of the watershed community for their exceptional accomplishments in their efforts to implement watershed management and planning.

Lance Miller, DWM Director, said, "We invite businesses, individuals and organizations to make nominations. We envision this recognition program to be a special part of our strategy to increase public awareness, understanding and support for the need to protect, restore and maintain our state's waterways. The successful work of our honorees will demonstrate outstanding and progressive results."

The three categories for the awards program are:

MUNICIPAL

This category applies to municipalities which have promoted regional planning and cooperation, have integrated watershed management policies as part of their planning, zoning, housing and economic development activities and have provided clean-up efforts on the area's waterways.

EDUCATIONAL

This category applies to activities by a school or organization to increase awareness and education in a significant way to the importance of watershed issues.

BUSINESS/INDUSTRY

This category applies to businesses and industries that have provided action, commitment and support to practicing watershed management as part of their policies and operations and who have promoted this practice.

"We are enlisting the interest and participation of our watershed community to identify potential honorees from these three categories," said Miller. "Nominations should reflect innovation, success and responsibility in achieving exceptional performance in their watershed management approach."

Nomination forms may be obtained by contacting Eileen P. Thornton, Awards Coordinator, by phone at 609-633-0634, by fax at 609-292-0687 or by e-mail at ethornton@dep.state.nj.us

An independent panel of representatives will review the nominations. The filing deadline is September 8, 2000.

NPS Success Stories

STREAMSIDE RESTORATION FOR CENTER STREET ON THE WHIPPANY RIVER

Located one block from Morristown's central business district, Center Street runs through the floodplain of the Whippany River. In the 19th century, Center Street provided housing for factory workers on one side of the street and a coal gasification plant on the other. These early residents left a legacy of brownfields, a filled in floodway and dumpsites.

The Urban Conservation Action Partnership (UCAP) was granted \$130,000 to clean up two acres of floodway and create a vegetated buffer between the river and a nearby parking lot through New Jersey's Nonpoint Source Grant Program.

When the planning process began, residents and the municipality worked with the UCAP's landscape architect to select a project site and create a landscape design. They decided to use plantings to protect the stream from nonpoint sources of pollution. Riverine species of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants thrive in the floodplain and filter pollution from storm water such as petroleum, antifreeze, salt and grit before it runs off a parking lot and enters a river. Local environmentalists organized river clean-ups that included Center Street in preparation for the restoration.

In the summer of 1996 the restoration began. The portion of the asphalt parking lot closest to the river was removed. Fill was excavated from the riverbanks and they were regraded to a gentler slope. Bollards were installed at the edge of the reduced parking area to prevent cars from parking next to the river. Finally, native trees and other plantings were installed and the area was mulched, which completed the project.

Then on October 19, 1996, the river flooded to the second highest level ever recorded. Floodwaters ripped out asphalt, sidewalk, trees, bollards, and fencing. The storm washed away 80 % of the completed project. Yet, the determination of those working on the restoration remained. The UCAP and volunteers salvaged the remaining plants and trees, heeling them into trenches dug on the project site. The town repaired the sidewalk and parking lot.

In the spring of 1997, restoration began again, with volunteers from the community and local corporations. The remaining grant funds paid for more plant material. By fall 1997, the project had been replanted and mulched. A reach of the Whippany River is now healthy and beautiful and a new legacy has begun.

Nonpoint Source Pollution Control and Management for the Stony Brook- Millstone Watershed

PART ONE

Recognizing the impacts of urbanization in their watershed, the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association (SBMWA) developed a four year project that involves general watershed restoration and reforestation projects with the main goal of stabilizing stream banks for erosion and sediment pollution control on various tributaries within the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed. The key to their current success is stakeholder and citizen involvement.

Three activities were the focus of this project. Stream corridors were protected through streambank restoration using bioengineering techniques and reforestation. Training sessions in bioengineering and reforestation methods were offered to the public. The SBMWA also identified and convened stakeholders to ensure the success of the project. To determine if the projects were successful, StreamWatch, SBMWA's volunteer monitoring program, will monitor the water quality at the restoration sites. StreamWatch volunteers chemically, biologically, and visually assess the environmental health of streams.

By the end of 1999, 1,090 linear feet of stream bank have been restored, over 1,000 square feet of lakeside hydric soils have been planted, and 4 acres of land have been reforested.

NPS Success Stories

Nonpoint Source Pollution Control and Management for the Stony Brook- Millstone Watershed

PART TWO

Over 200 citizen volunteers and representatives from the local commissions have successfully implemented BMPs within their communities. These projects were in four of the 25 municipalities in the watershed. In the spring of 2000, an additional 756 linear feet of stream bank were expected to be restored and 12 acres to be reforested.

SBMWA also held educational sessions on what makes a stream healthy, the value of riparian corridors, and the role of trees in maintaining a healthy ecosystem. After this project, data gathered from Stream Watch will be evaluated and compared to previously collected data to determine the effectiveness of all these efforts.

With two years left on the project, the SBMWA is very excited about the success of these restorations. Severely eroding banks were regraded, revegetated and stabilized, to prevent further sediment from entering the waterways. A new forest was planted, creating habitat and protecting the stream that runs through the former farm field. Most importantly, volunteers and community representatives were enthused and empowered by their ability to improve their environment.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AND NONPOINT SOURCE CONTROL FOR STRAWBRIDGE LAKE

NJDEP's NPS Grant Program provided \$110,000 in funding to help restore Strawbridge Lake in Moorestown, Burlington County. Over 4,000 feet of eroding shoreline were stabilized using soil bioengineering techniques, which created a vegetative buffer along the lake's edge.

Strawbridge Lake is surrounded by a park widely used by residents of Burlington and Camden Counties for activities such as walking, biking, picnicking, fishing and ice-skating. In addition to having a highly eroded shoreline, the lake receives numerous storm water discharges from the surrounding residential and commercial areas, as well as directly from State Highway Route 38. The lake itself has been listed by the NJDEP as a water quality limited waterbody. Sedimentation, elevated phosphorus, heavy macrophyte growth and chlordane in fish tissue were identified as the water quality impairments at Strawbridge Lake.

In addition to the shoreline restoration, the NPS grant funds were used to construct biofilter wetlands (pocket wetlands) in the park area to treat seven stormwater discharges into the lake. Four outfall structures were discharged into two pocket wetlands retrofitted to filter pollutants from the storm water. The last of these pocket wetlands was completed in November 1999. Three of the discharges to the wetlands were retrofitted with sedimentation chambers to remove coarse sediment from the runoff from Route 38 before discharging to the lake.

Volunteers from the local high schools, scout troops, senior citizen clubs and grass-roots organizations participated in planting the biofilter wetland and installing the three quarters of a mile of shoreline stabilization and vegetative buffer.

Additional funds from the Township of Moorestown and the Eastgate Mitigation Fund, under the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust, were used to conduct slope stabilization projects and wetlands mitigation projects for the lake. In total, approximately 4,020 feet of the lake's eroding shoreline were stabilized using soil bioengineering techniques. The bank stabilization projects, along with a "no mowing" zone, established a vegetative buffer along this 4,020 feet of shoreline. This buffer ranged in width from 10 to 20 feet. Easy access areas, which were interspersed throughout the project, were created along the shoreline using red gravel that was bordered by large flat stone resulting in a total of 240 linear feet of shoreline treated in this manner.

NPS Success Stories

This project could not have been completed without a solid partnership of cooperating entities, including the Township of Moorestown, Omni Environmental Corporation and the Delaware Riverkeeper Network. In addition to the local schools, volunteers from AmeriCorps, Save the Environment of Moorestown (STEM), Moorestown Environmental Advisory Committee and Strawbridge Lake Association assisted with the rehabilitation. Due to the efforts of these volunteers, approximately 80% of the 319(h) grant funds went into the ground.

The Strawbridge Lake project is believed to be a great success. Other communities have used this project as a model. This project not only enhances the natural beauty of the Lake and the surrounding park area for future generations, but also significantly improves the water quality of Strawbridge Lake.



Biofilter wetland designed to reduce the effects of nonpoint source pollution in Strawbridge Lake.

NEW NPS PROGRAM INITIATIVES

What is GRTS?

The 319(h) grant guidelines discuss the necessity for a GRTS page, which is a new requirement from previous years. GRTS is the Grants Tracking System established by EPA, and required to track the 319 funds. Information includes project description, amount of grant, project start and completion dates, and the NPS pollution being addressed. In the future, GRTS information will allow the public to view projects that have been funded in their communities, and the status of those projects.

NEW NPS PROGRAM INITIATIVES

Nonpoint Source Program

The NJDEP Nonpoint Source Program coordinates with many statewide partners on nonpoint source and stormwater management programs and issues. Current program efforts are targeted as a priority toward ensuring implementation of the most effective techniques to enhance and protect our land and water ecosystems. The program, among other things, develops and distributes guidance documents, makes grants available for best management practice implementation, drafts rules governing stormwater management, and promotes use of smart growth techniques and best management practices through statewide and watershed management projects. For additional information on

- 319 Guidelines
- Draft Best Management Practices Manual
- Draft Golf Course BMP Manual

please see our website at

www.state.nj.us/dep/watershedmgt/nps_page.htm

For more information, please contact Liz Rosenblatt, Nonpoint Source Coordinator at (609) 633-1349 or lrosenbl@dep.state.nj.us

NPS Success Stories

NEW NPS PROGRAM INITIATIVES

Clean Water Needs Survey

The Clean Water Needs Survey (CNWS) is a snapshot of the statewide needs throughout the state. This year, the needs survey includes a nonpoint source component which tracks the cost of addressing nonpoint source needs on a statewide basis for agriculture, silviculture, urban, groundwater, marinas, resource extraction (mining, quarrying), brownfields, storage tanks, sanitary landfills and hydromodification. For each facility, States are required to show the existence of the need and the cost to satisfy the need. In the past, NPS needs were underrepresented to congress. Documentation will be gathered to support the cost of NJ needs throughout 2000. We want congress to be fully aware of the needs for NPS funding in New Jersey as they determine funding allocations for each state.

[www.state.nj.us/dep/
watershedmgt/nps_page.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/watershedmgt/nps_page.htm)

Unified Watershed Assessment (UWA)

A new policy direction in New Jersey's UWA is formulating based on the recognition that a large percent of our waters need restoration actions and all 20 watershed management areas (WMAs) have one or more water segments listed on our impaired waterbodies list (303(d)). Although significant improvements have been made, remaining issues include biological and chemical impairment, lake eutrophication or fish consumption advisories. Because there are some remaining impairments in all watershed management areas, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is pursuing the following updated strategy be implemented:

1. An updated Unified Watershed Assessment will be prepared which identifies all watershed management areas as Category I priority watersheds.
2. Through the watershed planning process, plans equivalent to watershed restoration action strategies will be developed to identify necessary remedial activities for nonpoint source and stormwater runoff impaired waters in all 20 Watershed Management Areas. By fall 2000, watershed management planning will be occurring throughout the State through contracts with entities. It is anticipated that the development of initial Watershed Management Area Plans for all 20 Watershed Management Areas will be a 4-year process. The initial watershed management plans are to be considered to be a living document and part of an ongoing process.
3. NJDEP will then make available base and incremental 319(h) funds statewide for projects targeted at preventive and restoration best management practices to all our watershed management partners, using the guidelines found on our website.

Phase II Stormwater Permits

On October 29, 1999, EPA promulgated the Phase II Stormwater Permit Rule. This rule expanded the requirements for obtaining NPDES permits to all municipal separate storm sewers (MS4s) serving a population of less than 100,000 down to MS4s in urbanized areas with a population density of 1,000 per square mile. The regulation requires that municipal programs be composed of six minimum control measures:

- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement and Participation
- Illicit Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Water Runoff Control
- Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

Please see our website for additional information on this developing program.

WPNJ Hosts Rivers 2000

Join in the Celebration

The Watershed Partnership for New Jersey (WPNJ) is the state's official coordinator for the national Rivers 2000 Pass the Paddle Event. Rivers 2000 is a nationwide celebration of our rivers. Its goal is to increase public understanding and appreciation of the United State's 3.2 million river miles and their watersheds. Rivers 2000 will focus on:

- Recognition of the water and related land resources themselves, and the people and institutions who work together to ensure their value to us for the future;
- Recreation on and along rivers and streams, as well as the renewal of our personal interest in them; and
- Revitalization of the natural, human and economic resources associated with our rivers, and our commitment to proper stewardship of these important resources.

The centerpiece of Rivers 2000 is the "Pass the Paddle" event that is bringing together public officials and paddlers from across the country to carry the official Rivers 2000 paddle through all 50 states. New Jersey will receive "the paddle" from New York during the week of September 24th and pass it along to Delaware during the week of September 30th. During that week, events are being organized around the state, from the Hackensack and Passaic in the northeast to Delaware River to the west and the Coastal rivers along our eastern shore.

WPNJ event coordinators are looking for organizations, individuals and businesses that want to be a part of this historic event to raise the level of river and watershed awareness among the citizens of New Jersey. Possible events include river clean-ups, paddling events and environmental expositions, fishing tournaments and celebrations of the state's historic rivers. Events will be publicized by WPNJ and be posted on WPNJ's website (www.wpnj.org) with links to the NJDEP, individual watershed associations, outfitters and other interested organizations.

Anyone interested in organizing or participating in an event should contact the northern representative Karen Patterson (973-966-1900 or kpatters@greatswamp.org) or southern representatives Martha Maxwell Doyle (609-294-8040 or mmaxcoa@aol.com) or Angela Anderson (609-294-3111 or alssj@mail.earthlink.net) for more information. Information on the national event is also available on the Rivers2000 website at www.rivers2000.org



WATERSHED QUIZ

True or False

Take the watershed quiz! Please answer the following True or False questions to test your knowledge about watershed management.

- 1 My town is not in a watershed.
- 2 Local land use and zoning have no impact on water quality.
- 3 More impervious cover (roads, parking lots and buildings) is better for water quality.
- 4 Towns do not have to be involved with watershed management because the NJDEP regulates water pollution.
- 5 Stormwater management is for other towns.
- 6 Open space preservation will reduce municipal tax revenue.
- 7 There is money available to implement watershed restoration projects.
- 8 Quality of life including the environment is often an issue in local elections.
- 9 Watershed management is a waste of time.
- 10 There is no relationship between suburban sprawl and watershed management.

Answers:

- | | |
|-------|--------|
| 1 - F | 11 - T |
| 2 - F | 12 - F |
| 3 - F | 13 - T |
| 4 - F | 14 - F |
| 5 - F | 15 - T |
| 6 - F | 16 - F |

Watershed Management: Coming to Your Town!

What does watershed management have to do with my town?

Every town in the state is part of at least one watershed. Some towns, like Millstone Township in Monmouth County, are in more than one watershed, having land areas that drain to the Raritan River, the Delaware River and Barnegat Bay. The NJDEP has divided New Jersey into 20 watershed management areas. Watershed management planning will begin in all 20 areas by September 2000.

What does a watershed management plan have to do with my town? Why should my town be involved?

Watershed management may be time consuming but it is not a waste of time. Watershed management is an inclusive process that develops a plan for a watershed that includes all potential sources of water pollution from sewage treatment plants and industrial facilities to stormwater sources. While the NJDEP regulates sewage treatment and industrial facilities through permitting programs, a major component of this picture is under municipal control. That connection is land use.

Because of the municipal land use connection, it is important that towns be involved since they hold an important piece to the puzzle. How the land is used has a direct impact on local waterways. Towns can protect the quality of their waterways and their quality of life through local ordinances, open space preservation, stormwater management ordinances, site plan requirements and land use. Towns will also need to work with their upstream and downstream neighbors to protect the entire watershed of larger waterways.

How do impervious cover, open space and suburban sprawl fit into watershed management?

Reducing impervious cover is an important factor in protecting water quality and reducing suburban sprawl. By concentrating development where it already exists and where services such as roadways, sanitary sewers and public water supplies also are readily available, towns and counties can protect their watersheds, protect open space, reduce infrastructure costs and maintain quality of life for their residents.

Research has shown that as impervious cover increases in a watershed stream health decreases. A crucial threshold is 25% impervious cover. Above that level, streams are unable to support healthy diverse ecosystems. At levels below, 25% stream improves as impervious cover decreases. This makes impervious cover a valuable screening tool in assessing the impact of development on a watershed.

(Watershed Management continued on page 11)

Watershed Associations Form New Institute and Council

Watershed organizations from around the State are working together to support the protection of the State's water resources by creating two new organizations - the Watershed Institute and the New Jersey Council of Watershed Associations. Launched in May by the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, the group also includes the Great Swamp Watershed Association, the Passaic River Coalition, the South Branch Watershed Association and the Upper Raritan Watershed Association. The watershed associations are building a strong alliance with the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC).

Watershed educators have already formed the Watershed Partnership for New Jersey (WPNJ). The mission of WPNJ is to enhance watershed awareness through education and community involvement and to create a network of watershed resources to promote statewide.

The new organizations are founded on the direct relationship between water quality and quantity and sprawl - or the manner in which we expand development out onto the landscape. "Since watershed boundaries transcend municipal lines to include all the land that has an effect on a waterbody," noted Julia Somers, Executive Director of the Great Swamp Watershed Association, "the watershed perspective is a natural way to understand and manage the regional impacts of local development decisions."

"The Watershed Institute is designed as a combination of think-tank and support organization for watershed management issues," said Stony Brook Executive Director George Hawkins. "Our hope is to both organize a comprehensive set of model documents that relate to watershed associations, and provide direct assistance to new or smaller watershed organizations that are forming and growing throughout the State." Hawkins noted that one of the first tasks of the Institute will be to identify the many watershed associations and learn about their specific needs. "We look forward to helping in the effort to build the capacity of watershed associations to become strong participants in the effort to protect water quality," noted Abbie Fair of ANJEC, "and hope these associations will work side-by-side with environmental commissions."

The New Jersey Council of Watershed Associations (NJCWA) will be a separate entity that will help develop unified positions on issues of concern. "I have been working in the watershed movement for 20 years," said Dave Peifer, Executive Director of the Upper Raritan Watershed Association, "and I am not sure there has ever been a time when more statewide and regional decisions are being made that will impact our work." Michael Pollock, new Executive Director of the South Branch Watershed Association agreed. "The Council will help us come together and advocate for decisions that support our mission to protect water quality and natural resources," Pollock said.

Ella Filippone of the Passaic River Coalition emphasized that the watershed movement must also recognize the importance of urban areas. "Water quality is frequently most impaired in urban areas, which means we must be thoughtful both when we develop in headwaters, and when we redevelop in cities. I look forward to integrating the effort to be protective in both places."

Both the Institute and the Council will be administratively based at the offices of the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association.

Watershed Management: Coming to Your Town!

(continued from page 10)

One of the best ways to help a watershed is to keep large pieces of land in its natural state. The more of nature we can keep in place, the more we can help nature do its job of cleaning the water we all need. Open space preservation may not provide tax revenues directly but it can greatly contribute to the quality of the community and provide for water quality protection. If the area is kept in its natural state, it will also require few services and other expenditures from the town.

Is funding available?

Watershed management will be implemented through a wide variety of options. These can be changes to municipal land use ordinances, open space acquisition, stormwater basin retrofitting, stream bank restoration, education programs, permitting changes and other options.

Action Now funding is available for projects that can be easily implemented and have an obvious water quality benefit. Funding is available for open space acquisition through the Environmental Infrastructure Trust and Green Acres Program. Funding is also available through the NPS Program (see pages 5-8) and other programs in the Division of Watershed Management.



Participants in the Biological Assessment Teams (BATS) workshop in June learn how to assess stream health by examining the macroinvertebrate population. To find out about fall workshops and the Division of Watershed Management's new volunteer monitoring programs, contact Fran Varacalli, program coordinator at 609-633-0533.

